

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 are now pending in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended herein.

The drawings were objected to for allegedly not showing a carriage circuit board or a carriage being opposed to a recording head. Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner suggested that the carriage circuit board having a connector and being attached to a wall surface, and the carriage being opposed to the recording head was not adequately described in the original disclosure. This objection and rejection are traversed.

The carriage circuit board can read on the carriage base plate 40 as described in the specification beginning at page 14 and as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. Although the base plate is not necessarily referred to as a "circuit board", the term "circuit board" would not be interpreted by one of ordinary skill in the art as being limited to a control circuit. The base plate 40 as shown in Fig. 6 includes various terminals and other electronic components. One of ordinary skill in the art would readily understand that the base plate would include circuitry to connect the various terminals and components and thus would fall within the broad definition of "circuit board". Of course, the claims are not intended to be limited in scope to this particular construction. If requested by the Examiner, the specification will be amended to include this terminology.

As described in the specification and shown in Figs. 11-14, the base plate 40 is mounted on a wall of the carriage. This particular wall is opposed to the recording head when the recording head is mounted. Independent Claim 1 has been amended to clarify this feature.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the drawing objection and § 112 rejection are respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by Claims 1, 2 and 4-8.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. This Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicant earnestly believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objection and rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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